

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food & Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

1648 '99 AUG 10 11:17

Gentlemen:

Re: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197.

In April 1998, FDA was petitioned to ban forced molting of laying hens.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service states that the practice leads to "increased shedding of Salmonella enteritidis by laying hens subjected to forced molting". The US Food and Drug Administration requests public comments on reducing egg-borne diseases.

Forced molting has been scientifically proven to cause disease by destroying the starved hens' immune systems.

FDA has the duty to ban farm practices such as forced molting, proven to cause infectious disease.

By prohibiting forced molting, FDA will help protect our human population and reduce the suffering of millions of animals. The public demands this protection, and the birds deserve it. We urge you to grant the April 1998 petition to ban forced molting without further delay.

Sincerely,

Charlotte B Montgomery

Mrs. Roger Montgomery
1703 North Street
Nacogdoches, TX 75961

August 4, 1999

96P-0418

C109

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ C109

See File Number: 97P-0197/ C110
96P 0418/ C109